GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5614
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2007
URANIUM RESERVES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

:

(a) the total reserves of Uranium identified in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the reserves of Uranium are adequate to continue the nuclear programme of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any action plan has been chalked out by the Government for exploration of Uranium, its extraction and use in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ATOMIC ENERGY SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) The total identified reserves of Uranium in the country as on date are about 1,07,268 tonnes (U3O8). The state-wise distribution of the same is as follows:

STATE	URANIUM RESOURCES TONNES (U3O8)
JHARKHAND	47,809
MEGHALAYA	17,233
ANDHRA PRADESH	27,870
CHHATTISGARH	3,986
KARNATAKA	4,233
RAJASTHAN	4,113
UTTAR PRADESH	785
HIMACHAL PRADESH	784
MAHARASHTRA	355
UTTARANCHAL	100
TOTAL	1,07,268

[1 TONNE OF U3O8 = 0.848 TONNES OF URANIUM METAL]

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. The reserves are adequate to meet the requirement of about 10,000 MWe Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs), for a period of 40 Years in the first stage of the Nuclear Power Programme.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research(AMD), Hyderabad, a constituent unit under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has intensified exploration activities during XI Plan in potential areas by way of Airborne and ground Geophysical surveys and detailed surveys and drilling. It is envisaged to establish about 75,000 tonnes of uranium resources during XI Plan period.